

Rutgers University
Course Syllabus
Abnormal Psychology
01: 830: 340:H6 Summer 2012

Date & Time: Monday & Wednesday–6:00PM-9:40PM
Location: Lucy Stone B-115 Livingston Campus
Instructor: Stevie M. McKenna MA
E-Mail: steviemc@rci.rutgers.edu
Office Hours: by appt. Livingston campus Tillett #333

Course Objectives

This course will introduce you to the fascinating study of abnormal behavior. From the perspective of cultural norms, situational circumstances, and developmental variables we will discuss, you will be able to recognize and define abnormal behavior and what behaviors are within the normal range. We will also review society's progress in understanding dysfunctional behavior and the dominant theories that attempted to explain their development in the past.

We will explore the current view in which emotional, cognitive, biological, behavioral, and environmental components factor into the development of chronic dysfunctional behavior known as mental illness. We will also examine and compare the various current theories of the development of mental and cognitive disorders as defined by the *Diagnostic Statistical Manual* (DSM-IVtr). and the efficacy of treatment modalities including pharmacological interventions.

Required Texts:

David H. Barlow, V Mark Durand, *Abnormal Psychology: An Integrative approach* 6rd Edition, 2012 Wodsworth Cengage learning

Date	Topics	Assigned Chapters
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July 9	Getting acquainted / course requirements,	Chapter 1 - 2
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July 11	Clinical Assessment and Diagnosis Anxiety Disorders VIDEO	Chapter 3& 5
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July 16 REVIEW FOR EXAM I

July 18 EXAM I

July 23 Somatoform and Dissociative Disorders Chapter 6
Mood Disorders and Suicide - Guest speaker Chapter 7

July 25 Eating and Sleep Disorders Chapter 8
Sexual and Gender Identity Disorders Chapter 10

July 30 REVIEW FOR EXAM II

Aug. 1 EXAM II

Aug. 6 Substance-Related and Impulse Control Disorders Chapter 11
Personality Disorders Chapter 12

Aug. 8 Schizophrenia and Other Psychotic Disorders Chapter 13
Cognitive Disorders Chapter 15

Aug.13 REVIEW FOR FINAL EXAM

Aug. 15 FINAL EXAM

Grading: Your course grade will be based on 100 points valued as follows:

First Exam	30 Possible Points (30%)
Midterm Exam	30 Possible Points (30%)
Final Exam	30 Possible Points (30%)
Paper	10 Possible Points (10%)

In class lecture notes:

- Lecture notes will be provided for you on the **Sakai** website (resource section). These notes are not intended to be the only source of information for the exams.
- Please note that you will need your text book for this course. Since videos will be shown periodically during the course, you will **be expected to take adequate notes as some material from the videos will appear on the exams.**
- Some videos that will be shown will not be available through the media center. so attendance is important. **If you are not able to attend class on the day of the video, you will need to obtain notes from another student.**

Study guides: Study guides for each exam will be provided and posted on the **Sakai** website (resource section). These guides are to be used to prepare for each exam. Questions on the exams will, but not necessarily exclusively, reflect information given on the study guides.

Term paper (worth up to 10pt)

Your term paper should explore a recognized DSM-IVtr disorder. Some disorders that appear in childhood should be avoided as this course focus is on adulthood psychopathology. *See list.*

Your paper should address the following:

1. A definitive clinical picture of the disorder you are researching. (Short description).

You should include:

- symptoms
- prevalence rates
- cultural variables – is this a Western bound disorder or is it found all over the world such as schizophrenia?
- age of onset. What is the average age when symptoms appear?
- gender features (ex. Bipolar is equally common among men and women)
- etiology (e.g. Is it due to biology e.g. schizophrenia, bipolar, or is it trauma based or a combination?)
- course (will it be a lifelong chronic course e.g. schizophrenia or relatively short episodes e.g. depression?)
- current treatment
- prognosis of the disorder you are researching. What is the end result you expect to see with regard to the symptoms? What would the symptom picture look like when the person is 70.

2. A differential diagnosis: You should state *one disorder* which is similar and how to differentiate it from the disorder you are researching. In what ways is it similar and what ways is it different?

- *APA style is strongly encouraged* not mandatory – (e.g. title page and references etc).
- Must be double spaced (12pt type and Times New Roman)
- Must have **within text** citations.
- Articles, the DSM-IVtr, books, and online sources are fine. **Do not use the text book as a source.**

*****No longer than 10 pages including title and reference pages. No minimum number of pages but enough to cover the sections.**

**List of Acceptable Disorders for Paper: Choose any one disorder under the heading.
DO NOT ATTEMPT A CATEGORY.**

- **Anxiety disorders**

- Panic d/o
- Panic disorder
- Agoraphobia
- Specific phobia
- Generalized anxiety disorder (GAD)
- Separation anxiety (only when it appears in adulthood not childhood)
- Social phobia
- Post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)
- Obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD)

- **Personality disorders**

- **Cluster A**
 - Paranoid
 - Schizoid
 - Schizotypal
- **Cluster B**
 - Antisocial
 - Borderline
 - Histrionic
 - Narcissistic
- **Cluster C**
 - Avoidant
 - Dependent
 - Obsessive Compulsive Pd

- **Mood disorders**

- Major Depression
- Dysthymia
- Double depression
- Bipolar I
- Bipolar II
- Cyclothymia

- **Psychotic Disorders**

- Schizophrenia
- Schizophreniaform
- Schizoaffective disorder
- Schizotypal disorder
- Delusional disorder
- Brief Psychotic Disorder

- **Intellectual disability (MR)**
 - Fragile X
 - Down's syndrome

- **Autism spectrum disorders**
 - Classic autism
 - Asperger's syndrome

- **Eating disorders**
 - Binge eating disorder
 - Anorexia nervosa
 - Bulimia nervosa

- **Substance abuse disorders**
 - Abuse
 - Dependence

- **Cognitive disorders**
 - Delirium
 - Dementia
 - Alzheimer's Type
 - Vascular Dementia

- **Dissociative Disorders**
 - Dissociative Identity Disorder
 - Fugue states
 - Dissociative amnesia

- **Somataform disorders**

- **Gender Identity disorder**